

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Venezuela

Post: Caracas

Government seeks control of food production and distribution

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the Economy

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Report Highlights:

FAS Caracas provides information on statements made by Minister of Energy Rafael Ramirez saying that the "Revolution" will gain control of production and transportation of food. Entities belonging to the Ministry of Energy purchase and distribute some basic food items.

General Information:

Minister Rafael Ramirez said on Friday, June 4, with regard to food in poor condition*, that "we will take what action we have to take to resolve this problem." He said the government eventually will achieve control of food processing and food transportation in order to secure supplies." "There will come a time when our national networks will be hegemonic. At some point the revolution will have control of the key aspects of food processing, the time will come where the revolution has control of food transportation," he said.

"There will come a time when the Government will monitor the activities essential to food processing. There will come a time when the revolution will control food transportation and not emphasize private profit," he said.

*Note: Over the last few days, a number of shipping containers with food and other products imported by the government have been discovered at storage facilities with their contents in poor condition.

SOURCE: Official Statements and Local Media